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MICHIGAN LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Vol. XLVII No. 2
April 1991

JOB SERVICE

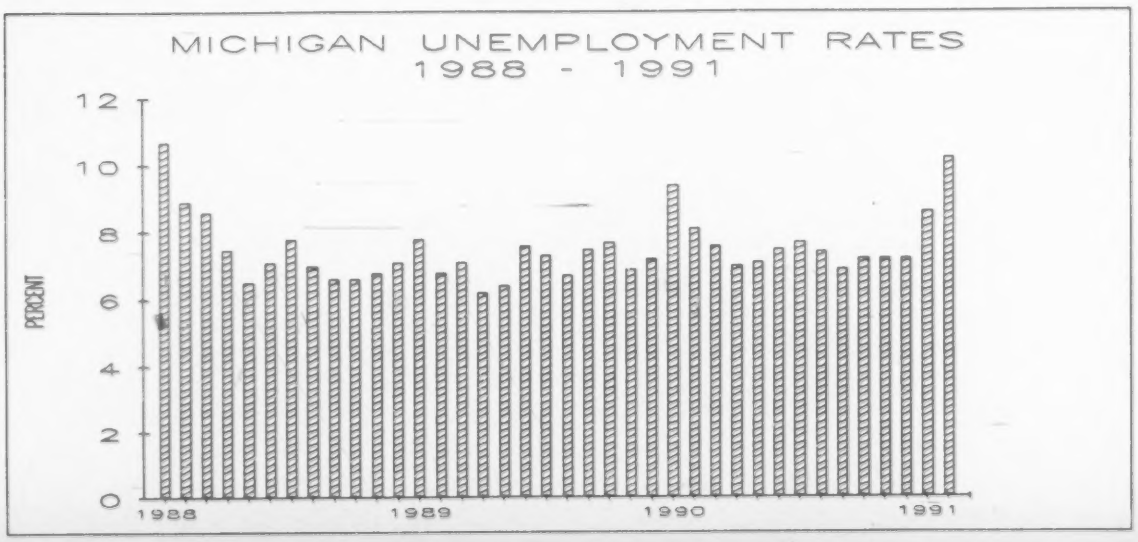
Michigan Employment Security Commission

JOBLESS RATE REGISTERS A SHARP INCREASE

Michigan's unemployment rate jumped by 1.6 percentage points as the jobless rate accelerated from 8.6 percent in January to 10.2 percent in February. The rate increase represents 76,000 additional individuals out of work, as total local residents seeking employment rose to 465,000. The advance in joblessness was primarily a result of employment declines in nearly every industry across the state. Total employment in February registered a drop as the number of employed area residents fell by 49,000 to reach 4,074,000. Additionally, the civilian labor force increased to 4,539,000, a hike of 27,000. Compared with a year ago, employment in Michigan has declined by 112,000, while the size of the labor force has dropped by 16,000. In February 1990, the total number of persons out of work amounted to 370,000, representing an unemployment rate of 8.1 percent.

STATE WIDE JOB LEVEL DECLINES

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in Michigan declined as industry jobs fell to 3,833,000 in February. Employment opportunities sagged by approximately 18,000 as losses were centered in both the goods producing and service producing sectors of the economy. Total employment in the goods producing industries dropped by 22,000 primarily as a result of seasonal decline in the construction and fabricated metal products industries. Service producing employment advanced by 4,000 to 2,831,000 in February, as losses in the retail trade industry were offset by gains in state and local government. Public sector positions climbed by 20,000, as local schools and colleges recalled their non-teaching personnel following the holiday season. Since February 1990, industry employment in Michigan has decreased by 64,000 positions or 1.6 percent. Approximately 71,000 goods producing jobs have been lost throughout the year, while service producing employment increased by 7,000.



Civilian Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Estimates

State of Michigan

ITEM	FEB 1991	JAN 1991	DEC 1990	FEB 1990
PLACE OF RESIDENCE *				
Civilian Labor Force	4539	4512	4565	4555
Employment	4074	4123	4237	4186
Unemployment	465	389	327	370
Rate	10.2	8.6	7.2	8.1
PLACE OF WORK *				
Wage and Salary Employment	3833	3851	3973	3897
Goods Producing Industries	1002	1024	1070	1073
Construction	112	119	133	124
Manufacturing	880	895	927	939
Durable Goods	658	671	698	710
Lumber and Wood Products	14	14	15	15
Furniture and Fixtures	36	36	36	35
Stone, Clay and Glass	15	16	17	16
Primary Metals	38	40	41	42
Fabricated Metals	107	114	118	120
Industrial Machinery	123	124	127	128
Electrical Machinery	30	31	31	33
Transportation Equipment	271	271	291	297
Motor Vehicles and Equipment	255	256	276	280
Nondurable Goods	222	224	229	229
Food and Kindred Products	43	43	45	42
Textiles and Apparel	18	17	19	20
Paper and Allied Products	21	21	21	21
Printing and Publishing	44	44	45	45
Chemicals and Allied Products	45	45	45	44
Rubber and Misc. Plastics	46	49	50	51
Service Producing Industries	2831	2827	2903	2824
Trans., Comm. and Utilities	151	151	156	153
Wholesale Trade	194	195	198	197
Durable Goods	123	124	125	127
Nondurable Goods	71	71	73	70
Retail Trade	718	736	772	719
General Merchandise Stores	112	121	129	116
Food Stores	105	106	109	103
Auto. Dealers and Serv. Stns.	76	77	77	77
Apparel and Access. Stores	38	40	43	40
Eating and Drinking Places	249	251	262	244
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	191	191	192	189
Services	931	929	942	920
Hotels and Lodging Places	33	34	35	34
Personal Services	43	41	41	42
Business Services	168	171	176	170
Health Services	309	308	308	301
Social Services	64	63	64	61
Government	646	626	643	646
Federal	58	59	60	60
State	174	168	172	174
Local	414	399	412	412
Labor Disputes	0	0	0	0

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE data are based on the monthly Current Population Survey of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics - 1989 Benchmark.
WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT is based on a monthly sample of employing establishments as part of the cooperative federal-state Current Employment Statistics program - March 1989 Benchmark.
Suppressed data included in: X=Totals, A=Other Durable Goods, B=Other Nondurable Goods.
Due to the suppression of data, the industry estimates do not sum to the total wage and salary estimate.
* **DATA IS IN THOUSANDS**

CLAIMS ACTIVITY

The number of individuals collecting regular unemployment benefits increased for the sixth consecutive month in February. The regular benefits claims load averaged 220,480 per week during the month, approximately 14,890 more than the January total.

The 7.2 percent increase was primarily due to production related cutbacks in the manufacturing industries. In February 1990, the number of claimants drawing benefits under the regular benefit program averaged 175,914.

WEEKLY CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Week Ending	Michigan			Detroit		
	Total	Initial	Continued	Total	Initial	Continued
February 02, 1991	234,100	34,600	199,500	95,000	16,200	78,800
February 09, 1991	253,500	45,300	208,200	107,300	24,000	83,300
February 16, 1991	256,000	37,000	219,000	107,700	18,900	88,800
February 23, 1991	255,300	38,900	216,400	107,200	20,200	87,000

DETROIT AREA COST OF LIVING MOVES UPWARD

Consumer prices in the Detroit metropolitan area increased from 131.2 in December to 132.2 in February. The increase in Detroit area prices was primarily due to higher costs for medical care and housing. Prices in the area climbed by 4.8 percent since February 1990, when the consumer price index stood at 126.1. At the national level, the cost of living advanced by one-tenth of a percent to reach 134.8 during the month.

The higher national prices were also due to additional costs for housing and apparel and upkeep. Between February 1990 and February 1991, national consumer prices increased by 5.3 percent. One year ago, the national index registered 128.0. Note: Beginning in January 1987, the Consumer Price Indexes were shifted to a new reference base year. All indexes expressed on a 1967=100, were rebased to 1982-1984=100.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

The average workweek of Michigan workers in manufacturing industries decreased to 40.0 hours in February. The decrease occurred primarily as a result of fewer hours worked by individuals in the auto related industries.

During the month average hourly earnings dropped by thirteen cents to $14.05, while average weekly earnings decreased by $20.80 to total $562.00. In February 1990, earnings averaged $13.55 an hour or $550.13 per week for a 40.6 hour workweek.

MICHIGAN'S HOURS AND EARNINGS

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings a/			Average Weekly Hours a/			Average Hourly Earnings a/		
	Feb 1991	Jan 1991	Feb 1990	Feb 1991	Jan 1991	Feb 1990	Feb 1991	Jan 1991	Feb 1990
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	$562.00	$582.80	$550.13	40.0	41.1	40.6	$14.05	$14.18	$13.55
DURABLE GOODS	592.80	617.85	576.11	40.0	41.3	40.6	14.82	14.96	14.19
Primary Metal Products	587.06	621.84	618.22	39.4	41.1	41.8	14.90	15.13	14.79
Fabricated Metal Products	567.62	588.55	549.04	40.4	41.1	40.7	14.05	14.32	13.49
Industrial Machinery	591.29	611.89	578.78	42.6	43.8	43.0	13.88	13.97	13.46
Electrical Machinery	441.90	475.19	448.44	38.9	41.0	40.4	11.36	11.59	11.10
Motor Vehicles & Equip.	703.47	735.27	658.55	39.3	40.6	39.6	17.90	18.11	16.63
NONDURABLE GOODS	469.97	474.25	463.79	40.1	40.5	40.4	11.72	11.71	11.48
Construction	574.74	594.91	547.93	35.5	36.7	34.9	16.19	16.21	15.70
Department Stores	170.64	171.59	178.73	23.7	23.7	26.4	7.20	7.24	6.77

a/ Average weekly and hourly earnings are computed from aggregates of individual establishment reports utilizing the total amount paid to production workers and total production hours. Average weekly and hourly earnings differ from weekly and hourly rates in that they are affected by overtime wage rates, part-time earnings, the length of the workweek, etc.

Note: *Current month data are preliminary.*

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES
FEBRUARY 1991 (Preliminary)

Area	Civilian Labor Force	Total Employment	Total Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
United States	124,070,000	115,151,000	8,919,000	7.2
Michigan	4,539,000	4,074,000	465,000	10.2
Major Labor Markets				
Ann Arbor MSA	167,100	155,600	11,500	6.9
Battle Creek MSA	64,800	58,400	6,400	9.9
Benton Harbor MSA	77,100	69,600	7,500	9.7
Detroit MSA	2,116,000	1,899,000	217,000	10.2
Flint MSA	186,300	161,700	24,600	13.2
Grand Rapids MSA	376,400	347,300	29,000	7.7
Jackson MSA	65,000	57,700	7,200	11.1
Kalamazoo MSA	119,300	112,200	7,100	5.9
Lansing MSA	240,300	225,100	15,200	6.3
Muskegon MSA	68,000	59,600	8,400	12.4
Saginaw-Bay-Midland MSA	187,200	168,700	18,500	9.9
Upper Peninsula LMA	138,100	121,100	17,000	12.3
Major Counties (18,000+)				
Allegan	59,000	54,500	4,500	7.6
Barry	24,225	21,875	2,350	9.7
Bay	54,250	48,375	5,875	10.8
Cass	22,775	20,050	2,725	11.9
Clinton	31,200	28,750	2,450	7.8
Eaton	53,250	49,975	3,275	6.2
Grand Traverse	35,575	32,050	3,500	9.9
Gratiot	19,975	17,725	2,250	11.2
Hillsdale	20,350	17,625	2,725	13.4
Ingham	155,825	146,375	9,450	6.1
Ionia	20,325	16,975	3,350	16.5
Isabella	31,925	29,925	2,000	6.3
Kent	274,300	253,125	21,175	7.7
Lapeer	34,350	29,400	4,950	14.4
Lenawee	44,250	38,425	5,825	13.2
Livingston	54,750	49,850	4,900	8.9
Macomb	370,450	331,700	38,750	10.5
Marquette	29,600	26,700	2,900	9.8
Midland	36,250	33,375	2,850	7.9
Monroe	65,900	56,475	9,425	14.3
Montcalm	25,075	21,275	3,800	15.1
Oakland	561,750	519,525	42,225	7.5
Ottawa	102,050	94,175	7,875	7.7
Saginaw	96,700	86,975	9,750	10.1
St. Clair	67,425	58,075	9,350	13.9
St. Joseph	26,850	22,925	3,950	14.7
Sanilac	19,825	16,600	3,200	16.2
Shiawassee	34,950	30,175	4,750	13.6
Tuscola	24,650	21,025	3,625	14.7
Van Buren	33,050	28,850	4,200	12.7
Wayne	961,175	853,950	107,225	11.2

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